

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-36 (Cancelled).

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): A transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a homozygous disruption of the endogenous α -TTP gene, wherein α -TTP ~~expression is inhibited such that~~ is not expressed and the transgenic mouse does not exhibit detectable plasma levels of α -tocopherol.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The transgenic mouse according to claim 37, wherein the mouse is a pregnant female, and wherein the pregnant female fails to maintain pregnancy as assayed by the fetal resorption-gestation test.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The transgenic mouse according to claim 37, wherein the disrupted endogenous α -TTP gene comprises an inserted marker gene.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): A method for producing the transgenic mouse according to claim 37, comprising:

(a) inserting a mouse embryonic stem cell into an embryo taken from a pregnant female to form a chimeric embryo, wherein the embryonic stem cell comprises a disrupted endogenous α -TTP gene;